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EXAMINER

JONES III, CLYDE H

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2623

DATE MAILED: 10/18/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/018,970	Applicant(s) SUZUKA, TETSUYA	
	Examiner Clyde H. Jones III	Art Unit 2623	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 7/27/2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-106 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-106 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>7/6/04, 3/21/05, 3/25/02</u> | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claim 1-106 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-106 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Young et al. (US 6,498,895 B2) in view of Smith (US 6,516,329 B1).

Regarding claim 1, Young teaches a program list display device for installation in a broadcast receiver (211 – fig. 22B) having a video recording and playback function (252) and for displaying a list of program information for a program selection on a display screen (210), the program list display device (fig. 1-7; col. 2, lines 35-60; col. 3, lines 15-31) comprising:

a means for preparing a program information displaying screen for displaying program information for programs scheduled to be broadcast (fig. 2; col. 11, lines 54-55) and for past recorded program (col. 5, lines 38-52, col. 6, lines 9-24; in which a past recorded program “with a solid red background 42” is listed/displayed with future

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scheduled programs), a display format setting screen (fig. 6) for indicating a display format of the program information (fig. 6; col. 6, lines, 25-47 in which the user can indicate/toggle the program notes/on-demand overlays displaying format, i.e., what information is displayed on the screen and where it is displayed on the screen), and a display filter setting screen (fig. 14-16; fig. 20) for restricting programs to be displayed on the program information displaying screen (fig. 14-16; col. 11, lines 20; in which the user sets the display filtering of the program guide based on user indicated themes/subject matter; col. 10, lines 25-37; and the channel customization/favorite channel setting screens fig. 20; col. 11, line 59-col. 12, line 17); and

a program list display means for displaying the program information for programs scheduled to be broadcast and the program information for past recorded programs as a program list on the program information displaying screen (program grid fig. 6, shows the past recorded and scheduled broadcast programs on the grid), and displaying the display format screen on a single screen (fig. 6, in which the user can view scheduled and past recorded program information in the grid while formatting the program notes displayed on a single screen; col. 6, lines 25-31), wherein

the program information comprises one or more program attributes of a channel attribute which shows a channel of the program, a date and hour attribute which shows broadcast date and hour of the program, a program name attribute which shows a title of the program (fig. 1-3, 5 and 6 & col. 6, lines 25-44; which teach program channel/call letter, date and hour and title information), a category attribute which shows a category to which the program belongs (NEWS and MOVIE category figs. 1-4,6 & fig. 16; fig. 14-

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17 which reads on a category; and reserved, past recorded, and linked title program categories, col. 5, lines 45-64 & fig. 4), and a media attribute which shows a storage medium in which the program is recorded (fig. 13; col. 9, lines 25-28).

Young further teaches receiving/sorting content form multiple sources e.g., over-the-air broadcast, cable, and local video recorders, i.e., VCRs (col. 6, lines 57-62; col. 12, lines 53-59; col. 9, lines 21-28) and doing multiple simultaneous searches of the guide/directory information to find/filter satisfying content (col. 10, lines 60-63 & col. 11, lines 5-17).

However, Young fails to specifically disclose on a single screen.

In an analogous art Smith teaches in a multiple content/program source system 200 –fig. 2 (col. 6, lines 18-21, 26-33; col. 7, lines 18-19,24-27) it is desirable to provide the display filter setting screen (450, 552, 554, 555 – fig. 5) on a single screen 305 (col. 7, lines 67–col. 8, lines 4; col. 8, lines 8-9) with program information for scheduled broadcasts (420; which shows the information results for programs TV programs 431) and past recorded programs (420; which shows the information results for programs recorded on local media 432; col. 9, lines 6-9) and display format settings (451, 470; col. 9, lines 13-21) for the purpose of enabling the user to search for content in a specified media category or to search for media regardless of its media category/source (col. 8, lines 29-35,50-52; col. 9, lines 5-12).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the system of Young to include on a single screen as taught by Smith for the added

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advantages of providing advanced searching features with an easier-to-use/customize interface for novice and advanced users (Smith - col. 9, lines 5-10; col. 10, lines 45-48).

Regarding claims 2 and 5, Young in view of Smith teach the one or more program attributes is a plurality of the different program attributes (show time, channel, linking attributes, source, etc.), and the program list display means is operable to display the program information as the program list in a two-dimensional array having a first program attribute arbitrarily selected from the plurality of program attributes on a first axis and a second program attribute arbitrarily selected from the plurality of program attributes on a second axis (figs. 1-3, 5,6).

Regarding claims 3 and 6, Young in view of Smith teach the one or more program attributes is a plurality of the different program attributes, and the program list display means is operable to classify the program information into groups on the basis of a value (search criteria or category) for a first program attribute arbitrarily selected from the plurality of program attributes and display the program information which belong to the respective groups as a program list in a one-dimensional array having a second program attribute arbitrarily selected from the program attribute group on an axis (Young-fig. 4 and fig. 7; fig. 13; Smith- fig. 5, 470, 420, 552; programs can be sorted by one category/attribute, e.g., games, movies, theme, topic, etc., and further sorted based on a second attribute/category, e.g., medium, source, time, theme,

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channel, etc., to search within the group via a 1-D array; Young- col. 10, lines 43-47, 54-63; Smith-col. 8, lines 29-33, 41-45).

Regarding claim 4, Young in view of Smith teach the one or more program attributes is a plurality of the different program attributes, and

the program list display means is operable to dynamically switch between (i) the program list display means displaying the program information as the program list in a two-dimensional array having a first program attribute arbitrarily selected from the plurality of program attributes on a first axis and a second program attribute arbitrarily selected from the plurality of program attributes on a second axis (figs. 1-3, 5,6) and (ii) the program list display means classifying the program information into groups on the basis of a value for the first program attribute arbitrarily selected from the plurality of program attributes and displaying the program information which belong to the respective groups as the program list in a one-dimensional array having the second program attribute arbitrarily selected from the plurality of program attributes on an axis (Young col. 7, lines 38-59; in which the program information display format of figs. 1-3,5,6 switch to the format of figs. 4, 7, or 13; Smith- 470, 420 –fig. 5; in which the display options can change from one format (e.g., 2-D) to another (e.g. 1-D) for searching within specific categories of information; col. 9, lines 14-20; col. 8, lines 29-33,41-45).

Regarding claim 7, 31, 38, 45, 52, and 59, Young in view of Smith teach the one or more program attributes is a plurality of the different program attributes, and

the program list display means dynamically changes (expands or decreases) the number of program attributes constituting the program information when the program list is displayed (Young- col. 10, lines 25-47; in which the EPG changes the number of programs and program attributes displayed by filtering/customization; and col. 11, lines 50-53 & fig. 20; in which the number of channels (channel attributes) is changed; Young- col. 10, lines 43-47, 54-63; Smith – 470 –fig. 5; col. 9, lines 14-20 in which the number/amount of program attributes displayed changes based on the user's selection; Smith - col. 8, lines 8-9).

Regarding claims 8, 33, 40, 47, 54, and 61, Young in view of Smith teach the program attribute shows the title of the program and a name of a program group constituted by a plurality of programs to which the program belongs (Young-fig. 7; Smith- 470, 552, 554, 555, 431, 432 – fig. 5), and

when the program list is displayed, the program list display means is operable to dynamically change between (i) displaying the title of the program as the program name attribute for the program to be displayed and (ii) displaying the name of the program group to which the program belongs as the program name attribute (Young-fig. 7-10; col. 6, lines 28-32, 45-47; col. 7, line 38-col. 8, line 4; in which a user views a screen with a program title and toggles the What's On TV or program notes command which activates display of program group, e.g., program channel or genre/category;

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NEWS/MOVIE groups on channel CNN - fig. 6 and group and title "MOVIE: ANATOMY OF SEDUCTION" -fig. 7; Smith - col. 9, lines 18-21; 552, 470 - fig. 5).

Regarding claims 9, 35, 42, 49, 56, and 63, Young in view of Smith teach a designating means for designating an attribute value of each program attribute constituting the program information, wherein

the program list display means is operable to display programs corresponding to an attribute value of each program attribute designated by the designating means on the program list (user uses the GUI and remote control 212 - Young -fig. 22B to select each program attribute, i.e., qualities, themes, categories, topics, etc, that comprises the programs displayed; Young- col. 10, lines 43-47,54-63; Smith - col. 7, lines 61-64), and

the program information comprises one or more program attributes of a channel attribute which shows a channel of the program (Young-fig. 7, fig. 4,6; col. 11, lines 14-17; Smith-col. 7, lines 38-42), a date and hour attribute which shows broadcast date and hour of the program (Young-fig. 4,6), a day-of-the-week attribute which shows a broadcast day of the week of the program (Young-fig. 4,6; col. 11, lines 14-17), a time attribute which shows a broadcast time of the program (Young-fig. 4,6; col. 11, lines 14-17), a program name attribute which shows a title of the program (Young-fig. 4,6 and fig. 23; col. 6, lines 9-10), and a media attribute which shows a storage medium in which the program is recorded (Young-fig. 13; col. 9, lines 25-28; Smith-432; col. 8, lines 54-56).

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Regarding claims 10, 36, 43, 50, 57, and 64, Young in view of Smith teach the designating means is operable to designate attribute values of the day-of-the-week attribute and the time attribute (col. 7, lines 57-59), and

the program list display means is operable to display programs having a broadcast day of the week and a broadcast time corresponding to the attribute values of the day-of-the-week attribute and the time attribute which values are designated by the designating means on the program list (Young-fig. 4; and col. 10, lines 28-30; col. 11, lines 14-17).

Regarding claims 11, 12, 13, 32, 34, 37, 39, 41, 44, 46, 48, 51, 53, 55, 58, 60, 62, and 65, Young in view of Smith teach the program list display means is operable to display the program information as a program list in a two-dimensional array having the channel attribute and the date and hour attribute on two axes (Young-figs. 1, 2, 5, 6).

Regarding claim 14, Young teaches a video recording and playback device for installation in a broadcast receiver and for recording and playing back a video signal by employing storage media (252, 232, 210, 220 [and tape] – fig. 22B), the video recording and playback device comprising:

a means for preparing a video recording state displaying screen including program information of programs reserved (scheduled) for video recording (fig. 4 and 13, Star Trek is selected 80 and reserved for recording at 9:00P as displayed 92) and of recorded programs (col. 5, lines 38-52, col. 6, lines 9-24; in which a past recorded

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program "with a solid red background 42" is listed/displayed with future scheduled programs; 78,98 –fig. 4 and 13; col. 8, lines 34-35), a first display format setting screen for indicating a display format of a video recording state (fig. 4; col. 11, lines 41-45; col. 14, lines 44-46), and a first display filter setting screen (fig. 14-16; fig. 20) for restricting programs to be displayed on the video recording state displaying screen (fig. 14-16; col. 11, lines 11-14,20; col. 9, lines 14-15,21-25; in which the user sets the display filtering of the program guide tape directory based on user indicated themes/topics that correspond to the program information stored in the directory; col. 10, lines 25-37; col. 13, lines 67-col. 14, line 9; col. 14, lines 44-46); and

a video recording state list display means (fig. 13) for dividing a whole storage area of the storage media into successively accessible storage units for each recorded content to perform management thereof (98) and displaying information concerning the storage units (78, 84, 94, 80) as a video recording state list on the video recording state displaying screen (76), and displaying the video recording state displaying screen, the first display format setting screen, and the first display filter setting screen on a screen (as discussed above), wherein

the video recording state list display means is operable to display a first group of storage units in which recorded programs are stored (98), a second group of storage units which is allocated to programs reserved for video recording (92, 90, empty slots 96; which shows information concerning the reserved tape's state and storage units, i.e., time left on program), and a third group of storage units which is unused on the video recording state displaying means (col. 8, lines 20-54; col. 9, line 54-col. 10, line 7;

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in which tape position information [94, 96, 80] is indicated for the tape, including recorded, unrecorded/unused/ and actively recording/reserved programs on the tape).

Young further teaches maintaining recorded video directory/library with other information about the programs such as theme category (col. 9, lines 23-28).

However young fails to teach on a single screen.

In an analogous art Smith teaches in a recorded media management system (col. 5, line 61- col. 6, line 4; col. 7, lines 18-19,27) it is desirable to provide a recorded content management settings/information GUI on a single screen (305- fig. 4, 5) for revising search criteria and customizing the display of the results (col. 7, line 61-col. 8, lines 9; col. 8, lines 59-61; col. 9, lines 14-20).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the system of Young to include on a single screen as taught by Smith for the added advantages of providing advanced searching features with an easier-to-use/customize and faster interface for novice and advanced users (Smith - col. 9, lines 5-10; col. 10, lines 45-48; col. 8, lines 60-61; Young- col. 10, lines 25-28).

Regarding claim 15, Young in view of Smith teach a video recording reservation means for designating an arbitrary storage unit from a storage unit group displayed on the video recording state list, thereby carrying out video recording reservation of a program in the designated storage unit (Young-fig. 12 & col. 8, lines 13-19; fig. 13, 92, 100,80; and fig. 23, fig. 5 [46] & col. 5, lines 53-61; and fig. 2 [40] & col. 5, lines 38-41; col. 13, lines 35-41; Smith -col. 5, lines 60-66).

Regarding claim 16, Young in view of Smith teach the video recording state list display means is operable to list-display information of the storage units for the respective storage media on the video recording state list and display program information of the corresponding program with respect to storage units which belong to the first group (78/98) or the second group (94, 96, 80 – Young, fig. 13; fig. 4), and

the program information comprises one or more program attributes of a channel attribute which shows a channel of the program (Young-fig. 4), a date and hour attribute which shows broadcast date and hour of the program (fig. 4), a program name attribute which shows title of the program (Young- 78–fig. 13; fig. 4; col. 8, lines 32-43) , and the category attribute which shows the category to which the program belongs (e.g. NEWS, Movie category – fig. 13, 4; in which NEWS/MOVIE are categories, fig. 16; col. 9, lines 14-28).

Regarding claim 17, Young in view of Smith teach the one or more program attributes is a plurality of the different program attributes, and

the video recording state list display means is operable to dynamically change a number of the program attributes constituting the program information when the video recording state list is displayed (Young- fig. 23; col. 8, lines 37-39; in which the tape directory is revised/changes or updates program attributes/information; fig. 4 & 13 change quantity of attributes displayed; col. 10, lines 25-47; in which the EPG changes the number of programs and program attributes displayed by filtering/customization;

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Young- col. 10, lines 43-47, 54-63; Smith – 470 –fig. 5; col. 9, lines 14-20 in which the number/amount of program attributes displayed changes based on the user's selection; col. 8, lines 8-9).

Regarding claims 18, and 19, Young in view of Smith teach the program name attribute shows the title of the program (470 – Smith, fig. 5; 78 – Young, fig. 13) and a name of a group constituted by a plurality of programs to which the program belongs (Smith- fig. 5, 552, 554, 555, 451, 432; Young shows categories/groups as discussed above in claims 16, 17, and 8), and

when the video recording state list is displayed, the video recording state list display means is operable to dynamically change between (i) displaying the title of the program as the program name attribute for a program to be displayed (470 – Smith, fig. 5; 78 – Young, fig. 13) and (ii) displaying the name of the program group to which the program belongs as the program name attribute (Smith – col. 9, lines 14-20; 552, 554, 555 – fig. 5; Young- fig. 13 shows NEWS group and program titles that are in the MOVIE group and the display is dynamic as discussed in claim 8 above).

Regarding claims 20, 21, 22, and 66, Young in view of Smith teach when the program is reserved for recording by the video recording reservation means, the video recording state list display means, in which a program group constituted by a plurality of related programs (e.g., series such as Star Trek), is operable to display a vicinity of the storage media, in which a program which belongs to the same program group as the

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program to be reserved for video recording is recorded, as a candidate of the designated storage unit to store the program reserved for recording (Young- 94, 92 -fig. 13 in which Star Trek is a group of series episodes belonging to the group of the next episode which is to be recorded in the unused portion/unit indicated by the tape gauges 80,94,92; col. 9, lines 14-32; col. 14, lines 5-9).

Regarding claims 23, 67, 75, 83, 91, and 99, Young in view of Smith teach the limitations as analyzed and discussed above in claims 1, 14, 15, and 16, furthermore it would have been obvious to modify the system of Young to include on a single screen as taught by Smith for the same advantages as discussed above in claims 1 and 14.

Regarding claims 24, 68, 76, 84, 92, and 100, they are analyzed and rejected similar to claim 2 above.

Regarding claims 25, 71, 79, 87, 95, and 103, they are analyzed and rejected with respect to claim 3 above.

Regarding claims 26, 72, 80, 88, 96, and 104, they are analyzed and rejected with respect to claim 4 above.

Regarding claims 27, 28, 69, 73, 77, 81, 85, 89, 93, 97, 101, and 105, they are analyzed and rejected with respect to claim 7 above.

Regarding claims 29, 30, 70, 74, 78, 82, 86, 90, 94, 98, 102, and 106, they are analyzed and rejected with respect to claim 8 above.

Conclusion

4. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Clyde H. Jones III whose telephone number is 571-272-5946. The examiner can normally be reached on 9-5:30 p.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chris Grant can be reached on 571-272-7294. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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